**Understanding Poverty through Graphs, Statistics, Charts, and Political Cartoons**

**Look carefully at each chart, graph, table or cartoon, and then answer the questions.**

**DOCUMENT NUMBER ONE**

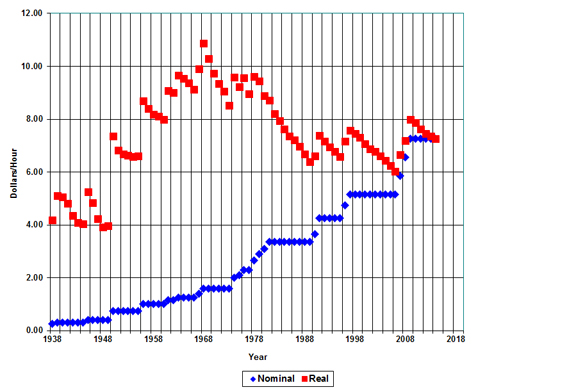
The following figures are the 2014 Health and Human Service poverty guidelines which are scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on January 22, 2014. (Additional information will be posted after the guidelines are published.)

| **2014 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA** | |
| --- | --- |
| **Persons in family/household** | **Poverty guideline** |
| For families/households with more than 8 persons, add $4,060 for each additional person. | |
| 1 | $11,670 |
| 2 | 15,730 |
| 3 | 19,790 |
| 4 | 23,850 |
| 5 | 27,910 |
| 6 | 31,970 |
| 7 | 36,030 |
| 8 | 40,090 |

1. If Make Lemonade took place in America in modern day, how much would Jolly have had to earn to qualify as living in poverty under the 2014 Poverty Guidelines?

2. If Jolly worked 8 hours a day, 5 days a week, for $7.50 an hour, would she be above or below the poverty guideline for a family of 3?

**DOCUMENT NUMBER TWO**



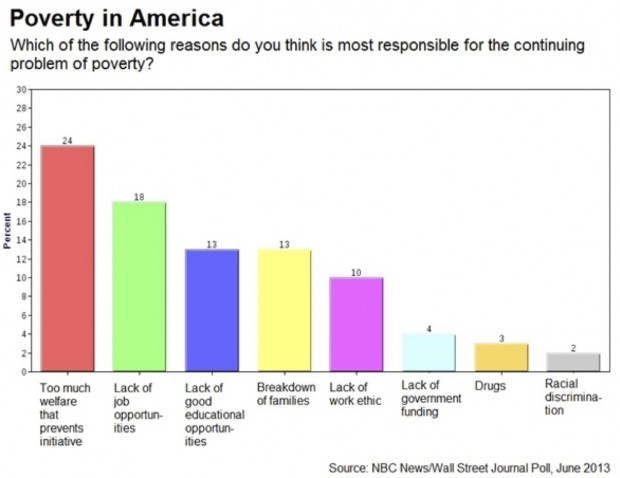
|  |
| --- |
| **A** [**federal minimum wage**](http://www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/chart.htm#.UNuMXXeDmSo) **was first set in 1938. The graph shows nominal (blue diamonds) and real (red squares) minimum wage values. Nominal values range from $0.25/hr in 1938 to the current $7.25/hr. The graph adjusts these wages to 2014 dollars (red squares) to show the real value of the minimum wage. Calculated in real 2014 dollars, the 1968 minimum wage was the highest at $10.86. Many cities and** [**states**](http://www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/america.htm#.UNuM63eDmSo) **have departed from the federal minimum wage. In 2014, San Francisco has the highest minimum wage at $10.55. The highest state is Washington's minimum wage at $9.32, and Oregon's is second at $9.10.** |
|  |

1. About how much is the **real** Federal minimum wage TODAY?

2. What is the increase in the **nominal** Federal minimum wage value from 1938 to 2008?

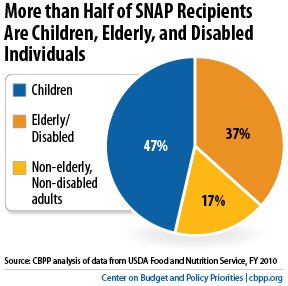
3. In what year was the **real** Federal minimum wage highest?

**DOCUMENT NUMBER THREE**

[](http://www.theblaze.com/?attachment_id=602571)

1. What does the scale on the left beginning with 0 and ending with 30 represent?
2. Based on the people surveyed, which reason is considered to be the greatest cause of continuing poverty?
3. Lack of job opportunities is viewed by surveyed people as a reason that is about double (two times) the amount of what other reason for continuing poverty?
4. Which is the reason that surveyed people view as the least important cause of continuing poverty?
5. In your view, which ONE of the above reasons caused Jolly’s poverty? Use details from the text to support your conclusion.

**DOCUMENT NUMBER FOUR**



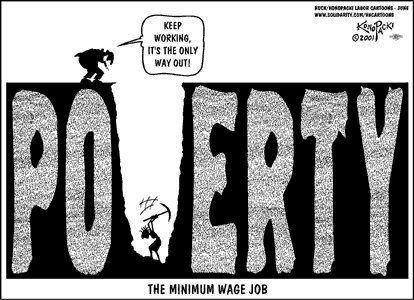
**What is SNAP?** SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, is the program formerly known as food stamps. It is a federal nutrition program that helps you stretch your food budget and buy healthy food.

SNAP benefits can be used to purchase food at grocery stores, convenience stores, and some farmers' markets and co-op food programs.

1. Which TWO GROUPS benefit the most from Food stamps?

2. What do these TWO GROUPS have in common? Why might they need food stamps?

**DOCUMENT NUMBER FIVE**



1. Who is the person in the hole? Who is the person out of the hole? How do you know?

2. Are the gender roles assigned by the cartoonist accurate or correct in your opinion? Why

3. Using the novel, Make Lemonade, who is the character in the hole? Who is (are) the characters out of the hole?

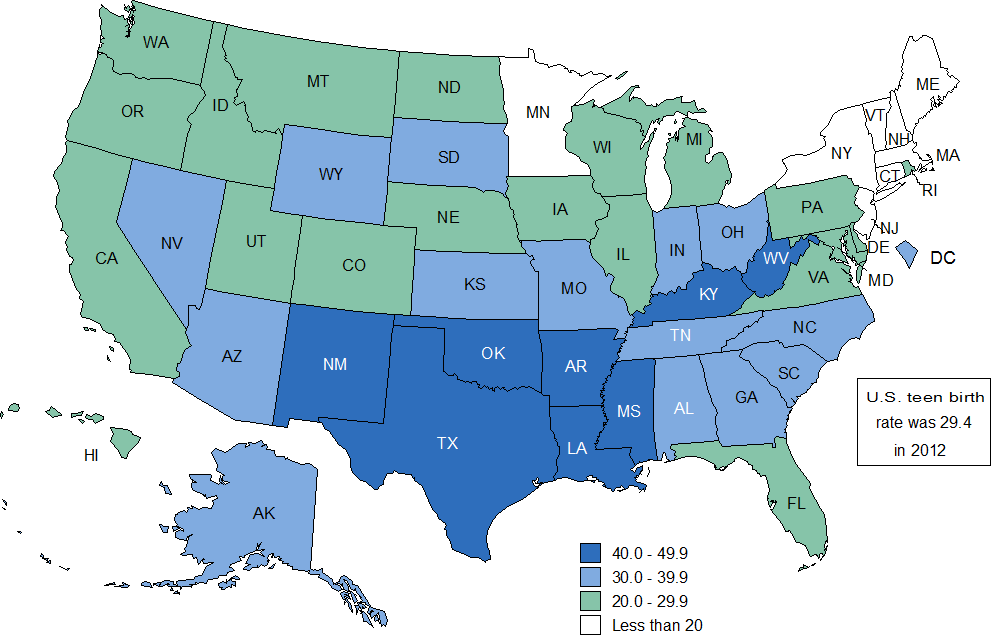
4. What is the message of this political cartoon? What can the worker do to improve her situation? Why does she keep making the hole deeper?

5. How might the cartoon relate to Jolly and her family? Use examples from the text to support your opinions.

**DOCUMENT NUMBER SIX**

Substantial geographic variation also exists in adolescent childbearing across the United States. In 2012, the lowest teen birth rates were reported in the Northeast, while rates were highest in states across the southern part of the country (see Figure 2).[[3]](http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/adolescent-health-topics/reproductive-health/teen-pregnancy/trends.html" \l "_ftn3" \o ") See how your state compares on birth rates, pregnancy rates, sexual activity, and contraceptive use with OAH’s [reproductive health state fact sheets](http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/resources-and-publications/facts/).

**Figure 2: Teenage birth rates for 15 – 19 year olds by state, 2012**



**Source: Martin, J. A., Hamilton, B. E., Ventura, S. J., & Osterman, M. J. K. (2013). *Births: Final data for 2012*. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics.**

1. Name one state that has a high teen birthrate?

2. Name one state that has a low teen birthrate?

3. A HYPOTHESIS is a beginning explanation that you make based on limited evidence. Form a hypothesis about what explains difference between the states with high teenage birth rates and the low teenage birth rates.

**FINAL ANALYSIS**

1. Which statistic that you read in the above charts was MOST SURPRISING?
2. Why?
3. Which statistic above related most directly to Jolly and her family?
4. Is there anything in your view of poverty that has changed from these charts?